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Reply To: Provider Relations (213) 738-3311
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May 17, 2012

TO: Fee For Service Network Providers

FROM: Robert Greenless, Ph.D.
Chief Information Officer
Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health
Chief Information Office Bureau
695 South Vermont Avenue – 7th Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90005

SUBJECT: INTEGRATED SYSTEM (IS) SHUT DOWN AND ELECTRONIC DATA INTERCHANGE READINESS (EDI)

This is to inform you that the contract between the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health (DMH) and the Integrated System vendor (Sierra Systems) is scheduled to terminate December 31, 2014. Upon termination of its agreement with Sierra Systems, DMH must shutdown the IS and cut-over to the Integrated Behavioral Health Information System (IBHIS). Unlike the IS, Network Providers will not have access to the IBHIS for direct data entry (DDE). Network Providers must be EDI capable and certified for the submission of claims and other DMH-defined transactions, and the receipt of remittance advices via EDI, at least three to six months in advance of the shutdown of the IS. Network Providers who are not certified by DMH for EDI by this deadline will not have a means to submit claims for mental health services delivered, and DMH will not have a mechanism in place other than EDI to process and reimburse Network Providers for services rendered.

DMH encourages its Network Providers who are not currently using an Electronic Health Record (EHR) system with EDI capability to pursue implementations of an EDI capable EHR system as soon as possible to transition from DDE into the IS to submission of electronic transactions to DMH via EDI. Another option is to seek the services of an EDI capable Billing Service or Clearinghouse.

Network Providers may be eligible for Meaningful Use (MU) incentives through the Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health Act (HITECH) of 2009. These incentives are available to Eligible Professionals (EPs) based on their discipline. For the Medi-Cal incentive program, network providers who are MDs, DOs or NPs are eligible based on the use of a certified Electronic Health Record (EHR), clinical quality measures submission and electronic exchange of health information. To obtain more information regarding the CMS incentive program, the State Medi-Cal program and Meaningful Use please use the following links:

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective And Caring Service"

CMS Incentive program: <http://www.cms.gov/EHRIncentivePrograms>

State Medi-Cal Incentive program: <http://www.medi-cal.ehr.ca.gov>

Los Angeles Regional Extension Center: <http://www.hitecla.org>

Meaningful Use Presentation:

[http://lacdmh.lacounty.gov/hipaa/documents/Meaningful Use %20An Overview February 2012.pdf](http://lacdmh.lacounty.gov/hipaa/documents/Meaningful%20Use%20An%20Overview%20February%202012.pdf)

If you have questions regarding this announcement, please contact Provider Relations Unit at (213) 738-3311 or at FFS2@dmh.lacounty.gov.

RG:KB:bp

c: Marvin J. Southard, D.S.W.
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